GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7107
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2000
OLD AGE PENSION .
CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the eligible old persons in the country are getting old age pension;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) which department and the officer who is competent to grant such pension;

(d) the criteria for sanctioning of such pension;

(e) whether only the influential and rich persons get this pension sanctioned easily whereas poor people are ignored;

(f) whether land-owning persons are also entitled for the same; and (g) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

(SHRI A.RAJA)

(a): No, Sir. All the eligible old persons are not getting old age pension under National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS).

(b): All the eligible beneficiaries are not being covered due to paucity of funds.

(c): The Nodal Department responsible for implementation of NOAPS varies from State to State. At District level, the Distric Magistrate/Deputy Commissioner implements the scheme with the assistance from the District Level official of the State`s designated Department. The District Magistrate/Deputy Commissioner is accordingly the competent authority to sanction pensions.Sanctions may however, be accorded by another designated official in the district on the authority delegated to him by the District Magistrate /Deputy Commissioner.

(d): The criteria for sanction of pension under NOAPS are:

(i) The age of the applicant- male or female, should be 65 years or above.

(ii) The applicant must be a destitute in the sense of having little or no regular means of subsistence from his/her own sources of income or through financial support from family members or other sources. In order to determine destitution, the criteria, if any, currently in force in the State/UT Governments may also be followed.

(e),(f)&(g): No, Sir. Rich people are not considered for pension under NOAPS.pension under NOAPS is given only to those old destitute people who fulfill the criteria as laid down in the NSAP Guidelines.